



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 17, 2007

Shana Jones, Special Assistant
Daryl Fields, Public Affairs Officer
610 N.W. Loop 410
San Antonio, Texas 78216
(210) 384-7440

WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY IN FEDERAL COURT TO MURDERING INFANT

U.S. Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that 24-year-old Donna Michelle Forbes faces mandatory life in federal prison after admitting to killing a five-month-old girl on Fort Hood.

Appearing before United States Chief District Judge Walter Smith, Jr., Forbes admitted that was babysitting the child on July 28, 2006, and that over a period of several hours that morning, the child would not stop crying. Forbes admitted she shook the child violently and even slammed the child on the ground at least twice causing trauma to the child's head. Furthermore, she admitted to striking the child on her back with a closed fist. Forbes, who later realized that the infant was unconscious, placed the child in her car seat and extended the canopy to conceal the baby's head. When the infant's mother arrived to take the child home, she saw the canopy extended and assumed her child was asleep. Forbes didn't tell her what had transpired earlier.

When they arrived at their home, the mother noticed unusual bruising on the child's face. After removing the child from the car seat the mother realized that the child was limp and having difficulty breathing. She immediately took her daughter to Darnell Army Medical Center. The infant was later transferred to Scott and White Memorial Hospital in Temple. There, physicians discovered that the child had a fractured skull and suffered from significant subdural hemorrhage, the result of non-accidental trauma. On July 30, 2006, doctors declared the child brain dead and removed her from the ventilator.

Sentencing for Forbes, who remains in federal custody, is scheduled for July 25, 2007.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division. Assistant United States Attorney Mark Frazier and Specials Assistant Sam Gregory prosecuted this case on behalf of the government.

#####